GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1667
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015
EXPLORATION FOR ENLARGING RESOURCE BASE
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated any steps to enhance exploration for enlarging resources base for coal in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these steps would reduce the dependence on import of coal; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the import of coal is likely to be reduced?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a & b) : A programme of 4.80 lakh metresof regional drilling has been drawn for XII Plan under the MoC Scheme of Promotional (Regional)exploration for enlarging resources base for coal in the country.

CIL through CMPDIL and other agencies has continuously been conducing exploration for new coal reserves. Explored coal reserves as per Geological Survey of India for last five years is as below:

(Figs. In Billion Tonnes)

As on	Geological Resources			
	Proved	Indicated	Inferred	Total
01.04.2010	109.798	130.654	36.358	276.810
01.04.2011	114.002	137.471	34.389	285.862
01.04.2012	118.145	142.169	33.183	293.497
01.04.2013	123.181	142.632	33.101	298.914
01.04.2014	125.909	142.506	33.149	301.564

(c& d) : Enhancement of exploration capacity will help in formulation of new projects which will improve domestic coal production.

However, as per XII Plan Document of Working Group on Coal & Lignite, there is a projection for Demand-Supply Gap of 265.50 MT in the terminal year of XII Plan.